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capable of observing what China has been able to do in centuries of intercourse with alien races and earlier inhabitants of a soil upon which Chinese expansion long ago established itself. With a recognition, as valuable as it is rare, that the record of missionary endeavor complicates the reading of the story of distant and little-known folk, the author has split his book fairly in the middle, half is ethnographic record, half is devoted to the story of the propagation of the faith. This honesty of purpose will attract the reader, the missionary pages will be found as interesting and very nearly as instructive as the former section of the book. The tribes with whose history and welfare Mr. Clarke has so long been engaged are the Miao of the province of Kweichow, which lies between Hunan and Yunnan, south of Szechwan and north of Kwang-si. Linguistically they are provisionally associable with the tonal languages which appear seated at the head-waters of the great streams which in their lower courses have become the homes of the rich cultures of Burma, Siam and Cambodia. Without strength to hold their own against the Chinese advance, too powerless to fight their way to new homes, the Miao have remained in a condition of practical slavery, a clear proof of the immiscibility of Chinese culture even with races not far from the same ethnic and culture horizon. In two chapters the author deals briefly with the Chung-chia, for whom he finds identification with the stock of the Shans of northern Burma, and the Lo-lo or No-su for which a Tibetan origin is sought.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

The Changing Chinese. The Conflict of Oriental and Western Cultures in China. By Edward Alsworth Ross. xvi and 356 pp. Illustrations and index. The Century Co., New York, 1911. \$2.40. 8½ x 6.

China is changeless, China is changing every hour of these its crowded days. These are all a matter of choice. To those who have essayed to create a gross psychology, the psychology of empires, China has long stood as the stock evidence of a land whose arteries have hardened and which has passed into a sort of senile communal decay, uninterested save from hand to hand in daily routine and unaroused as to a future which neither dismays nor attracts. To those who seek to follow the course of that which purports to be news, there seems a new and vivid China, a land of revolution, of a resurrection from Manchu death, a land of republican ardor. Before we can comprehend this China which changes not and this China which is fairly spinning, who can comprehend our old friend Wu Ting-fang? Is this leader of republican activity in a land which tried out and discarded the republic 2,000 years ago, is he the mystic Oriental and real? Is he wholly artificial, the creation of the American newspaper man? Frankly, I believe the latter; not only have I had a part in the creation, but I have had this belief confirmed by a Chinaman so high in the councils of his land that the Wu Ting-fangs were but the pawns with which he played the great game. Is China changing? Who knows? The chapters of this volume are little more than a year old in their former magazine source, yet Prof. Ross caught no glimpse of such an impending change as we are led to believe, yet on no authority that we can wholly trust, is now taking place in the Middle Kingdom. But change or no change, we have here an interesting story of competent observation. It is exterior observation of necessity, it is a series of judgments of the superficial Chinaman on a China surface beneath whose glaze it is so difficult to penetrate. But not of the same necessity is it superficial judgment; far from that, the author approaches his task with a recog-

niton that the simpler the standard of measurement the more accurate the record. Of all this manner of investigation one character is fundamental, the Chinese are judged by their capacity for the absorption of Occidental custom, quite forgetting that much of the basic principle of all this new Occidentalism is matter which China has already experimented with and has discarded as not adapted or adaptable to its national life. Our author's own science of sociology is by no means cordial to all of Occidental development in its own home, and he should be the last to expect it to be adopted in its known imperfection by a race who were thinkers when Noah was but a weather prophet. Yet we welcome this book, welcome it in a season when books on China come in crowds, for it has a saving grace in its willingness to set before the reader the fact that in China are men like-minded with ourselves.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

From Western China to the Golden Gate. The Experiences of an American University Graduate in the Orient. By Robert Sprague. 128 pp. 30 illustrations. Lederer, Street & Zeus Co., Berkeley, 1911. 7 x 5.

This book contains a brief description of a trip from Chentu, in the Tibetan borderland of China Proper, to San Francisco. It is a traveler's story of the scenes and incidents of the journey which was made by sedan chair, by rafts and by various types of boats through interesting sections of the Empire. The book gives but a fleeting glance of the country except in two chapters, one of them reporting a visit to the sacred mountain of China, Omei, and the Great Buddha, and the other detailing the appointments and the arrangements of a Chinese inn. As an appendix is a long chapter on the recent and radical changes (the book antedates the inception of the rebellion), which deals largely with the betterment of the river transportation into the interior and the partial elimination of beggary in western China. The work contains a number of excellent pictures on a variety of themes, while the text is, to a great degree, simple in its character, so that for certain aspects of Chinese life it may be used as a geographical reader.

ROBERT M. BROWN.

India and the Durbar. A Reprint of the Indian Articles in the "Empire Day" Edition of THE TIMES, May 24th, 1911. Index, viii and 356 pp. Macmillan & Co., Ltd., London, 1911. \$2. 8½ x 5½.

Even the wise prevision which induced a great newspaper to provide in a topical and timely special edition the valuable articles which now appear in this volume could not have looked for the dramatic turn which the recent durbar has taken, the restoration of Delhi to its former glory, but now as the capital greater than India has ever known. For the first time since Disraeli added the imperial surcharge upon the style of British kings an English monarch has gone into the oldest of the remaining possessions of the British Empire which are truly imperial. There was display at the durbar, the pomp of Asia is yet potent in many ways; how far the glitter of jewels, the tread of marching elephants, the homage of tributary princes, even the superposition of a crown whose history is written but in last year's journals of the goldsmiths, how far all this will avail to check the great Indian unrest—all this is foreign to the purpose of a literary review to discuss. But the conditions which remain when the howdahs and gay caparisons are taken from the elephants, when the princes go back to squeeze their tribute from complaining masses, these are the theme of the sev-